

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12757 201556Z

53

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 SCA-01 PPT-02 H-03 SY-04

INR-11 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /053 W
----- 128245

P R 201539Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1804

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, CPAS, CGEN

SUBJ: CONSULAR ACCESS TO VICTOR ORESHKOV

REF: MOSCOW 12701, 12629

1. CONSOFF PHONED GERMAN BOSIKOV, MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION, ON AUGUST 20 FOR ANSWER TO EMBASSY NOTE OF AUGUST 19 DEMANDING CONSULAR ACCESS TO USC ORESHKOV AT KASCHENKO HOSPITAL. BOSIKOV STATED HE COULD GIVE NO ANSWER ONE WAY OR OTHER TO EMBASSY REQUEST, CLAIMING REQUEST HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO HIGHER ORGANS FOR DECISION. BOSIKOV STATED HE EXPECTED DECISION WITHIN "A COUPLE OF DAYS" BUT IN EMBASSY VIEW IT UNLIKELY BOSIKOV IS AWARE IF AND WHEN DECISION ON ACCESS TO ORESHKOV WILL BE TAKEN. CONSOFF STRESSED THAT ORESHKOV IS U.S. CITIZEN AND THAT U.S. CONSULAR OFFICIALS ARE GUARANTEED SPEEDY ACCESS TO HOSPITALIZED OR ARRESTED U.S. CITIZENS BY ARTICLE 12 OF U.S.-SOVIET CONSULAR CONVENTION.

2. SINCE ORESHKOV APPARENTLY HELD FOR THREE WEEKS IN PSYCHIATRIC WARD OF KASCHENKO HOSPITAL, WITH NO OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION TO EMBASSY, WE BELIEVE REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO ORESHKOV SHOULD BE PRESSED RESOLUTELY. IN ABSCENCE DEPARTMENTAL OBJECTION, EMBASSY PLANS RE-REQUEST MFA DECISION ON ACCESS TO ORESHKOV MID-MORNING AUGUST 23.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 12757 201556Z

COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES IT POSSIBLE THAT CONTINUING AND

ESCALATING ATTENTION TO ORESHKOV MIGHT AT LEAST RESULT IN HIS
RELEASE FROM CONFINEMENT, ALLOWING THE ISSUE OF CONSULAR
ACCESS TO DIE WITH NO FURTHER REVERBERATIONS. END COMMENT.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENTAL GUIDANCE AND RE-
COMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ACTION THIS CASE.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, CONSULAR AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: papenddr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW12757
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740229-0532
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740833/aaaabcik.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOSCOW 12701, 12629
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: papenddr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUN 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by boyleja>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <17 JUN 2005 by powellba2>; APPROVED <21 JUN 2005 by papenddr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULAR ACCESS TO VICTOR ORESHKOV
TAGS: CASC, CPAS, CGEN, PFOR, (ORESHKOV, VICTOR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005